

REMARKS

I. Introduction

At the time of the Office Action dated August 25, 2005, claims 1-12 are pending. Of those claims, claims 1 and 7-12 have been withdrawn from consideration pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.142(b). Applicants acknowledge, with appreciation, the Examiner's indication that claim 4 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 2-6 stand rejected.

In this Amendment, claims 2, 5, 6 and 12 have been amended, claims 1 and 7-11 have been canceled, without prejudice, and new claims 13-19 have been added. Care has been exercised to avoid the introduction of new matter. Specifically, claim 2 has been amended to include the limitation "selector." Adequate descriptive support for the amendment of claim 2 can be found in, for example, Fig. 10 and relevant description of the specification. Claim 5 has been amended to be dependent on new claim 13. Claim 6 has been amended to include all the limitations recited in claim 1, instead of referring to claim 1. Claim 12 has been amended to be dependent on any one of claims 2-5 so that claim 12 is readable on the elected species B (see the July 18, 2005 reply). New claim 13 recites the limitations originally recited in claim 2. Adequate descriptive support for new claims 14-18 can be found in, for example, Fig. 11 and relevant description of the specification. New claim 19 corresponds to claim 12.

II. Specification

The Examiner suggested deleting "[Selected Drawing] Figure 10" from the abstract. In response, the abstract has been amended in a manner suggested by the Examiner. Withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully solicited.

III. The Rejection of Claims 2-6 under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

The Examiner asserted that claim 2 is indefinite for the following reasons: (1) the recitation “said predetermined input signal” in line 9 has an insufficient antecedent basis issue; (2) the recitation “the added signal is entered...” in lines 20-21 is unclear; and (3) the recitation “compensating means for defining said converged value...” in line 24-27 is not understandable.

In response, Applicants have amended claim 2 to delete the recitations pointed out by the Examiner. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2-6 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is respectfully solicited.

IV. The Rejection of Claims 2, 3, 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

In the statement of the rejection, the Examiner asserted that Bustin discloses a zero reference and offset compensation circuit identically corresponding to what is claimed.

In response, Applicants submit that Bustin does not disclose an offset compensation apparatus including all the limitations recited in claim 2, as amended. Specifically, claim 2 has been amended to include the limitation “a selector for selecting one of the inverted signal and the non-inverted signal from the electronic apparatus.” It is apparent that Bustin is silent, at minimum, on the selector because Bustin in Fig. 1 merely discloses two comparators 11 and 12, inputs of which are provided through branched lines extending from terminal 10. No selector is shown in Bustin.

Accordingly, Bustin does not disclose an offset compensating apparatus including all the limitations recited in claim 2, as amended, within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §102. Dependent claims 3 and 6 are also patentably distinguishable over Bustin at least because they respectively include all the limitations recited in claim 2. It is noted that claim 5 has been amended to be

dependent on new claim 13. Applicants, therefore, respectfully solicit withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2, 3 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and favorable consideration thereof.

V. New Claims 13-17

It is submitted that new claim 13 is patentably distinguishable over Bustin at least because the claim includes all the limitations recited in independent claim 2, as amended. New claims 14-18, which correspond to original claims 2-6, are also patentable. Applicants submit that Bustin does not disclose the claimed selector for “selecting the storage means to add the converged value to the input signal when the value corresponding to said error signal is converged,” recited in new independent claim 14. It is noted that the selector recited in new claim 14 is readable on, for example, Fig. 11 which is simply a different embodiment of Fig. 10. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to prosecute new claims 14-18 together with claims 2-6.

VI. Conclusion

It should, therefore, be apparent that the imposed rejections have been overcome and that all pending claims are in condition for immediate allowance. Favorable consideration is, therefore, respectfully solicited.

Application No.: 10/830,139

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP

for [Signature] #46,692
Michael E. Fogarty
Registration No. 36,139

600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3096
Phone: 202.756.8000 MEF:TT
Facsimile: 202.756.8087
Date: November 23, 2005

**Please recognize our Customer No. 20277
as our correspondence address.**

WDC99 1164124-1.061282.0070